

# **Expository: The Choose and Explain Essay**

- Will either give you an option: Knowledge or Power, Love or Money
- Or, will give you a broad topic you have to narrow down to 1 ONE topic: What would you do to change the world?

## **Essays prompts I've seen:**

- Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.
- Write an essay explaining whether it is better to stick your ground or to compromise.
- Write an essay explaining what you would do to change the world.

-STAAR is really testing to see if you can pick 1 ONE topic and develop that 1 ONE topic/idea throughout your entire essay. DO NOT BE WISHY WASHY. They do not want to see you hang between two ideas. They do not want to see that you can see both sides of an argument (They will ask that of you in 11<sup>th</sup> grade). Pick 1 ONE, give it POWER, and stick to it all the way through your essay.

## **Musts:**

- Written in 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> person (DO NOT USE "YOU")
- Opening paragraph must have a hook and then it must choose your 1 ONE idea.

**DO NOT ANNOUNCE ANYTHING!**

- I'm going to tell you about...
- The one topic I chose is ...
- My anecdote for this topic is ...

- Body paragraphs must develop and give further support for this 1 ONE idea. Create new body paragraphs for added dimensions of the 1 ONE idea.
- Concluding paragraph must wrap up your 1 ONE idea without presenting new ideas. You can do this by restating your main points. It is also good to have a sentence that leaves your reader thinking, but without using the word "YOU."

## **Hat Tricks:**

- Grandiloquent Vocabulary
- Figurative Language
- Tone
  - Humorous, Sarcastic
  - Eerie, Mysterious
  - Sad, Melancholic
- Small Anecdotes to further illustrate your points
- Leave your reader with an *epiphany* in your conclusion without using "YOU"